

News Release

For Immediate Release

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Colorado Chautauqua sets new bar in occupancy while national rates falter

BOULDER, Colo. (Dec 9, 2008) — National gas prices averaging more than \$4/gallon didn't keep people from traveling to Boulder this past summer. Despite the economic downturn, a record number of guests stayed in Chautauqua's historic cottages and lodges this year.

During June, July and August the national lodging occupancy rate hovered at 68.6%, whereas Colorado Chautauqua averaged 86.3%, trumping the national average by 25%. Chautauqua's summer success stands apart in the state as well; the Colorado occupancy average was 73.7% for the same period. Even with the Democratic National Convention in Denver, Chautauqua's summer average was still 10% higher than the Denver metro region's, which includes Boulder (78.4% average).

The popularity of Colorado Music Festival's week-long "Beethoven Rocks!" concert series certainly contributed to Chautauqua's 91.8% July occupancy, an all-time high for the century-old landmark. With family-friendly lodging, affordable quality programming, and a prime location offering easy access to forty-eight miles of trails and to beatific downtown Boulder, Colorado Chautauqua expects summer 2009 to be a busy one regardless of the stock market.

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The Colorado Chautauqua Association

The Colorado Chautauqua Association (CCA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that preserves the site and perpetuates the spirit of the historic Chautauqua in Boulder, building community through unique cultural, educational, social and recreational experiences. The CCA serves as the steward of Chautauqua. It leases from the City of Boulder and has full responsibility for 26 acres of Chautauqua Park, home to many public buildings, gardens and 100 cottages, 61 of which are available for rental.

For more information about the Colorado Chautauqua Association, visit www.chautauqua.com. For access to historic photos, or to arrange interviews with executive director Susan Connelly, call Kuvy Ax at (720) 329-7327. For access to artist photos or bios, or to arrange interviews or press passes, call marketing and development director Denise Link at (303) 952-1645.